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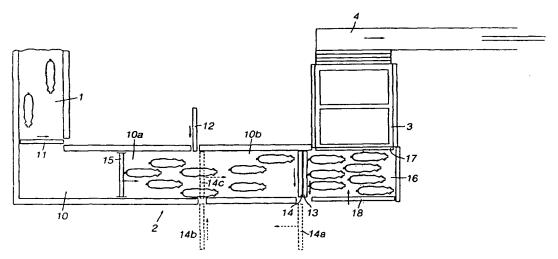
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(54) Title: ARRANGEMENT AND METHOD FOR DIVISION OF ANIMALS INTO GROUPS AND TRANSFER OF GROUPS OF ANIMALS TO A STUNNING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An arrangement for division of animals into groups and transfer of groups of animals to a stunning apparatus (3) comprises an oblong corridor section (10) in which animals can be driven from an entrance end to an exit end. It has a division gate (12) in the corridor section between the entrance end and the exit end, which gate is placed in such a way that the corridor area (10b) between the division gate and the exit end has room for a number of animals corresponding to the group size. In continuation of the corridor section (10) a transfer section (16) is placed at the exit end of the section, which transfer section has room for a number of animals corresponding to the group size and has a connection with the entrance to the stunning apparatus. The transfer section between the corridor section and the stunning apparatus provides the advantage that the division process becomes less dependent on the subsequent process where a group of animals are driven into the stunning apparatus and stunned, which increases the capacity of the system.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC7: A22B 1/00, A22B 5/02 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC7: A22B Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPO-INTERNAL, WPI DATA C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Category* 1-3 EP 0643917 A2 (SLAGTERIERNES FORSKNINGSINSTITUT), X 22 March 1995 (22.03.95), column 1, line 24 - column 3, line 1, figure 1, claims 1,2,5 4-7,9-11, figure 1, claims 1,2,5 13-14 1-6,9-14 SE 503565 C2 (SLAGTERIERNES FORSKNINGSINSTITUT), X 8 July 1996 (08.07.96), page 2 - page 3; page 7, figures 1,2, claims 1,2,6,7 1-6 DK 110107 C (SLAGTERIERNES FORSKNINGSINSTITUT), A 2 December 1968 (02.12.68), page 1 - page 3, figure 1, claims 1-6 See patent family annex. Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered the principle or theory underlying the invention to be of particular relevance earlier application or patent but published on or after the international "X" document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other document of particular relevance: the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination special reason (as specified) document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other being obvious to a person skilled in the art means document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "A" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search **2 5 -06- 2003** 23 June 2003 Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Swedish Patent Office Box 5055, S-102 42 STOCKHOLM Igor Gazdik/Els + 46 8 782 25 00 Telephone No. Facsimile No. +46 8 666 02 86

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